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United Nations

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination

Fifty-first session
(6 June-1 July 2011)

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Chapter I
Organization of the session

1. The Committee for Programme and Coordination held its organizational session (1st meeting) on 28 April 2011 and its substantive session from 6 June to 1 July 2011 at United Nations Headquarters. It held a total of 10 meetings and some 20 informal consultations.

2. At its 2nd meeting, on 6 June, several delegations raised concerns over the delays and difficulties encountered by some Member States in obtaining entry visas from the host country. The Committee recalled General Assembly resolution 65/244, in which the Assembly endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2012-2013, contained in chapter II, section A, of its report on the work of its fiftieth session (A/65/16). In particular the Committee recalled its recommendation under programme 6, Legal affairs, concerning the host country's legal obligation to grant entry visas to the officials of all Member States attending United Nations meetings.

A. Agenda

3. The agenda for the fifty-first session, adopted by the Committee at its organizational session (1st meeting), is contained in annex I to the present report.

Selection of reports of the Joint Inspection Unit

4. At its 1st meeting, on 28 April, the attention of the Committee was drawn to the note by the Secretariat (E/AC.51/2011/L.2), containing the information that there were no relevant reports of the Joint Inspection Unit available for consideration by the Committee. At its 2nd meeting, on 6 June, the Committee was further informed, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) and General Assembly resolution 59/267, that no relevant reports of the Joint Inspection Unit would be available for the fifty-first session.

5. In the discussion, it was recalled that also at its fiftieth session, the Committee had received no reports of the Joint Inspection Unit concerning the economic, social and human rights programmes of the United Nations system in accordance with paragraph 6 of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX). In this regard, it was further pointed out that one of the key mandates of the Committee is to assist the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly on coordination.

6. The Committee expressed concern with the absence of reports of the Joint Inspection Unit, which is not consistent with the recommendation adopted at its forty-seventh session and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/224, recognizing the need to enhance the dialogue of the Committee for Programme and Coordination with the Joint Inspection Unit on coordination issues (see A/62/16, para. 153).

7. The Committee also emphasized that the recommendation adopted at its forty-ninth session, which was endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/229, on the need to enhance its coordination role through improved cooperation with the Joint Inspection Unit, among other United Nations entities, in order to

increase planning efficiency and to prevent duplication of efforts within the United Nations system, has not been fully implemented.

8. The Committee recommended to the General Assembly that it urge the Joint Inspection Unit to intensify its efforts to introduce to the Committee reports that are relevant to the function of the Committee, bearing in mind paragraphs 4 (d) and (e) of article 11 of the statute of the Unit.

Programme of work

9. At its 2nd meeting, on 6 June, the attention of the Committee was drawn to the note by the Secretariat on the status of documentation (E/AC.51/2011/L.1/Rev.1), listing the documents for consideration by the Committee.

10. Also at its 2nd meeting, the Committee had before it an informal paper setting out a tentative and provisional programme of work for its fifty-first session. The Committee approved the programme of work, with the understanding that adjustments would be made by the Bureau, as necessary, during the course of the session.

B. Election of officers

11. At its 1st meeting, on 28 April, the Committee elected, by acclamation, Gastón Lasarte (Uruguay) Chair of the Committee for the fifty-first session.

12. At the same meeting, the Committee elected, by acclamation, the following members of the Bureau for the fifty-first session: Vice-Chair: Chull-joo Park (Republic of Korea); and Rapporteur: Vladimir Pavlovich (Belarus).

13. At its 2nd meeting, on 6 June, the Committee elected, by acclamation, the following members of the Bureau for the fifty-first session: Vice-Chairs: Felix A. Datuowei (Nigeria) and Isi Yanouka (Israel).

14. Also at its 2nd meeting, the Committee was informed that Vladimir Pavlovich (Belarus), who was elected Rapporteur of the Committee for Programme and Coordination for its fifty-first session, would be unable to attend the session and had requested that the necessary arrangements be made for his replacement.

15. At its 7th meeting, on 15 June, the Committee elected, by acclamation, Igor Krasnov (Belarus) Rapporteur of the Committee.

16. The members of the Bureau for the fifty-first session of the Committee are:

Chair:
Gastón Lasarte (Uruguay)

Vice-Chairs:
Isi Yanouka (Israel)
Chull-joo Park (Republic of Korea)
Felix A. Datuowei (Nigeria)

Rapporteur:
Igor Krasnov (Belarus)

C. Attendance

17. The following States Members of the United Nations were represented on the Committee:

Algeria
Antigua and Barbuda
Argentina
Armenia
Belarus
Benin
Brazil
Central African Republic
China
Comoros
Cuba
Eritrea
Guinea
Haiti
India
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Israel
Italy
Kazakhstan
Namibia
Nigeria
Pakistan
Republic of Korea
Russian Federation
South Africa
Spain
Ukraine
Uruguay
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

18. The following States Members of the United Nations were represented by observers:

Austria
Egypt
France
Japan
Kenya
Mexico
Morocco
Nicaragua
Senegal
Switzerland
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United Republic of Tanzania
United States of America

19. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented as observers:

European Union

20. The following funds and programmes were represented:

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

21. Also present at the session were the Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services; the Assistant Secretary-General and Controller, Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts; the Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women; the Secretary of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-agency Affairs of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs; the Director of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa; and other senior officials of the Secretariat.

D. Documentation

22. The list of documents before the Committee at its fifty-first session is set out in annex II to the present report.

E. Adoption of the report of the Committee

23. At its 10th meeting, on 1 July 2011, the Rapporteur introduced the draft report of the Committee (E/AC.51/2011/L.4 and Add.1-6).

24. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft report on the work of its fifty-first session (E/AC.51/2011/L.4 and Add.1-6).

25. Before the closure of the session, statements were made by the representatives of Argentina, Algeria, South Africa and Belarus.

Chapter II
Programme questions

A. Programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011 and proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013

26. At its 7th, 8th and 9th meetings, on 15 and 16 June 2011, the Committee considered the consolidated report on the changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011 and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 (A/66/82). The Committee also had before it the strategic framework for the period 2012-2013 (A/65/6/Rev.1) and the relevant sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 (A/66/6 (Sects. 3, 15, 17 and 22)).

27. Representatives of the Secretary-General introduced the consolidated report and responded to queries raised during its consideration by the Committee.

Discussion

28. General appreciation was expressed for the presentation of the report, which provides a guideline for strategic planning, budgeting, management and accountability for the Organization.

29. The view was expressed that there were a few inconsistencies in the strategic frameworks contained in the proposed programme budget fascicles for the biennium 2012-2013 in the following sections: 14 (Environment), 26 (Palestine refugees) and 30 (Office of Information and Communications Technology), when compared with the approved strategic framework for the period 2012-2013 as contained in document A/65/6/Rev.1. The Committee was informed that steps had been taken to resolve the matter.

30. Clarification was sought as to the reasons why the consolidated report of the Secretary-General on the changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011 and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 did not reflect the programme changes for section 16 (International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice) that arose from the revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2010 as approved under section VII of General Assembly resolution 65/259.

Programme 2
Political affairs

Subprogramme 10
United Nations Office to the African Union

Discussion

31. Delegations noted that it was not clear whether the intended goals of the United Nations Office to the African Union fell under the responsibility of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations or that of the Department of Political Affairs, under which the Office was established.

32. While appreciation was expressed for the creation of the Office as a positive and an important step, the view was also expressed that the Office must not neglect the spectrum of activities other than peacekeeping, such as peacebuilding, conflict resolution and conflict prevention. Concern was expressed that development-related issues were not adequately reflected in the strategic framework of the Office.

Conclusions and recommendations

33. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the changes to the narrative of programme 2, Political affairs, subprogramme 10, as contained in the consolidated report of the Secretary-General (A/66/82), subject to the following modification:**

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

At the end of expected accomplishment (c), add the words "in Africa".

Programme 7
Economic and social affairs

Subprogramme 2
Gender issues and advancement of women

Discussion

34. Appreciation and support were expressed for the subprogramme under consideration, its presentation, overall orientation, objectives and subprogrammes. The important role and efforts of the subprogramme in key focus areas were emphasized. Support was expressed for the normative and operational work of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women).

35. The view was expressed that the subprogramme should observe the principle of universality while delivering its work. The view was also expressed that support to Member States at the national level should be provided at their request; the work of UN-Women should be carried out in coordination with other United Nations agencies, funds and programmes in order to avoid duplication of work, and, in the provision of support to Member States, all relevant gender-related issues should be addressed. The view was further expressed that UN-Women should work with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and the Offices of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children in the areas of peace and security. The view was expressed that the strategic framework of the programme should be developed taking into full consideration the mandates given by legislative bodies, in line with its strategic plan.

36. The view was expressed that the United Nations Secretariat should continue its efforts to achieve gender parity in its staff recruitment. Support was expressed for addressing gender issues in line with the Millennium Development Goals, for investment in education as a key element in the empowerment of women and for enhancing capacity-building activities.

37. The view was also expressed that the resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women should be included under the list of legislative mandates in future proposed strategic frameworks.

Conclusions and recommendations

38. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the changes to the narrative of programme 7, Economic and social affairs, subprogramme 2, Gender issues and advancement women, as set out in the consolidated report of the Secretary-General (A/66/82), subject to the following modifications:**

Biennial programme plan for the period 2012-2013

(a) Intergovernmental support and strategic partnerships

Objective of the Organization

Replace the text of the objective with the following:

> **"To strengthen the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment and advancement of women, including women's full enjoyment of their human rights".**

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

At the end of expected accomplishment (a), add the words "and enhanced support of UN-Women for the participation of non-governmental organizations in the work of the Commission on the Status of Women".

Revise the text of expected accomplishment (c) to read:

> **"(c) Enhanced capacity of UN-Women to support Member States, upon their request, in their efforts to achieve national and internationally agreed gender equality priorities".**

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (a) (i) with the following:

> **"(a) (i) Increased number of activities of UN-Women aimed at supporting the participation of Member States and non-governmental organizations accredited by the Economic and Social Council in the Commission on the Status of Women, including assistance for reporting on actions taken in areas related to the priority theme of the Commission".**

Replace indicator of achievement (a) (ii) with the following:

> **"(a) (ii) Percentage of required documents submitted by UN-Women on time for consideration by the Commission on the Status of Women in compliance with relevant rules and regulations on the issuance of documentation".**

Replace indicator of achievement (b) (i) with the following:

"(b) (i) Number of initiatives, supported by UN-Women, of United Nations entities that incorporate gender perspectives in their policies, programmes and projects".

Revise indicator of achievement (b) (ii) to read as follows:

"(b) (ii) Number of United Nations country teams, supported by UN-Women, that are applying performance indicators on gender equality in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework".

Replace indicator of achievement (b) (iii) with the following:

"(b) (iii) Number of human resources policy measures advocated and/or assisted by UN-Women in United Nations system entities that incorporate gender perspectives in their implementation".

Replace indicator of achievement (c) (i) with the following:

"(c) (i) Number of activities by UN-Women to attract voluntary contributions to support achieving the goals of gender equality and the empowerment and advancement of women".

(b) Policy and programme activities

Objective of the Organization

Replace the text of the objective with the following:

"To enhance the elimination of discrimination against women and girls and the achievement of gender equality in, inter alia, the fields of development, human rights and peace and security, including by leading, coordinating and promoting the accountability of the United Nations system in its work in these areas".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (b) with the following:

"(b) Enhanced policy support for the implementation of the women and peace and security agenda by the United Nations system".

In expected accomplishment (c), replace the words "Strengthened commitment by countries to eliminate" with the words "Enhanced international support for efforts that contribute to eliminating".

Replace expected accomplishment (d) with the following:

"(d) Enhanced capacity of UN-Women to effectively support, upon the request of Member States, national mechanisms for gender equality, service delivery institutions and civil society organizations, in order to advance gender equality and women's empowerment and to protect women's human rights".

Replace expected accomplishment (f) with the following:

"(f) Enhanced capacity of UN-Women to lead and coordinate the United Nations system in supporting Member States at the country

level in order to implement their national commitments to eliminate discrimination against women and girls, empower women and achieve gender equality".

Indicators of achievement

Redesignate indicator of achievement (a) as (a) (i) and replace the text, as follows:

"(a) (i) Increased number of policies and actions taken and/or supported by UN-Women, upon the request of Member States, at the national and regional levels to implement the Beijing Platform for Action, the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the 2005 World Summit".

Add a new indicator of achievement (a) (ii) reading as follows:

"(a) (ii) Number of activities by UN-Women aimed at the incorporation of gender perspectives in the resolutions and decisions of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council".

Replace indicator of achievement (b) with the following:

"(b) Number of activities by UN-Women to support the initiatives by United Nations system entities related to the implementation of the women and peace and security agenda".

In indicator of achievement (c) (i), replace the words "Number of countries" with the words "Number of initiatives taken by countries, upon their request, and supported by UN-Women, at the national, regional and international levels".

Replace indicator of achievement (c) (ii) with the following:

"(c) (ii) Number of countries requesting assistance from UN-Women in the compilation of their gender-responsive budgets".

Replace indicator of achievement (d) (i) with the following:

"(d) (i) Number of UN-Women activities related to strengthening capacity development provided, upon the request of Member States, to national mechanisms for gender equality, service delivery institutions and civil society organizations".

Replace indicator of achievement (d) (ii) with the following:

"(d) (ii) Number of UN-Women activities to support countries, upon their request, aimed at increasing the availability of their national sex-disaggregated data".

In indicator of achievement (e), replace the words "Amount of funds secured through" with the words "Number of activities of UN-Women to mobilize resources from".

Revise indicator of achievement (f) (i) to read as follows:

> **"(f) (i) Number of United Nations programmes at the country level formulated and implemented with the participation and/or assistance of UN-Women".**

Replace indicator of achievement (f) (ii) with the following:

> **"(f) (ii) Number of United Nations coordinated mechanisms on gender equality led or co-led by UN-Women".**

Strategy

Replace the second sentence of paragraph 20 with the following:

> **"The fulfilment of the objective will result from expanding support to Member States, upon their request; strengthening coherence between the normative support provided to global intergovernmental processes and the technical and thematic advice provided to national partners at the country level; and leading, coordinating and promoting the accountability of the United Nations system in its work on gender equality and the empowerment and advancement of women."**

Replace paragraph 21 with the following:

> **"21. The key focus areas for UN-Women are: (a) increasing women's leadership and participation in all sectors of society, as well as in humanitarian assistance activities; (b) preventing violence against women and girls and expanding their access to response services in order to enable countries to protect women and girls, and promote the role of men and boys in preventing and eliminating violence against women and girls; (c) strengthening the implementation of the women and peace and security agenda through the promotion of women's full and equal participation and representation in conflict prevention and conflict resolution and peace processes; (d) increasing women's access to economic empowerment, including in the context of global economic and food crises, as well as natural disasters and other challenges, by working with Governments and relevant multilateral institutions to ensure the full realization of women's economic rights and enhance women's full and equal access to economic resources and social protection; and (e) assisting countries in strengthening, upon their request, the responsiveness of plans and budgets to gender equality at all levels, by working in close collaboration with other relevant United Nations entities."**

Legislative mandates

Replace the list of legislative mandates with the following:

General Assembly resolutions

34/180	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
50/42	Fourth World Conference on Women
50/203	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action
54/4	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
54/134	International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women
S-23/2	Political declaration
S-23/3	Further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action
55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
59/164	Improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system
60/1	2005 World Summit Outcome
64/139	Violence against women migrant workers
64/140	Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas
64/217	Women in development
64/289	System-wide coherence
65/1	Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals
65/187	Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women
65/189	International Widows' Day
65/190	Trafficking in women and girls
65/191	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
65/259	Questions relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011

Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions

76 (V)	Communications concerning the status of women
304 (XI)	Report of the Commission on the Status of Women (fourth session)
1992/19	Communications on the status of women

1996/6	**Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women**
1996/31	**Consultative relationship between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations**
1999/257	**Enabling the Commission on the Status of Women to continue to carry out its mandate**
2005/232	**Declaration of the Commission on the Status of Women on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women**
2006/9	**Future organization and methods of work of the Commission on the Status of Women**
2009/15	**Future organization and methods of work of the Commission on the Status of Women**
2009/16	**Working Group on Communications on the Status of Women of the Commission on the Status of Women**
2010/6	**Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women**
2010/29	**Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system**

Economic and Social Council agreed conclusion and ministerial declaration

1997/2	**Mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system**
	Ministerial declaration on implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and empowerment of women (2010) (see A/65/3/Rev.1)

Security Council resolutions

1325 (2000)	**Women and peace and security**
1820 (2008)	**Women and peace and security**
1888 (2009)	**Women and peace and security**
1889 (2009)	**Women and peace and security**
1960 (2010)	**Women and peace and security**

Biennial programme plan for the period 2010-2011[1]

Replace the biennial programme plan for 2010-2011 with the biennial programme plan for 2012-2013, as modified by the Committee under the heading "Biennial programme plan for the period 2012-2013" above.

[1] The strategic framework for the biennium 2010-2011 has been revised pursuant to sect. VI, para. 10, of General Assembly resolution 65/259.

Programme 12
Human settlements

Subprogramme 3
Regional and technical cooperation

Discussion

39. Clarification was sought as to the reason for changing indicator of achievement (d) relating to expected accomplishment (d) under subprogramme 3, Regional and technical cooperation, for the biennium 2012-2013.

40. Concerning the recommendation to change indicator of achievement (d) relating to expected accomplishment (d) under subprogramme 3, Regional and technical cooperation, some delegations emphasized the need for accurate and reliable national statistical data as a key tool to implement the five substantive focus areas of the medium-term strategic and institutional plan of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) at the country and regional levels.

Conclusions and recommendations

41. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the changes to the narrative of programme 12, Human settlements, reflected in subprogramme 3, as contained in the consolidated report of the Secretary-General (A/66/82).**

Programme 18
Economic and social development in Western Asia

Subprogramme 6
Advancement of women

Subprogramme 7
Conflict mitigation and development

Discussion

42. Under subprogramme 6, Advancement of women, clarification was sought as to the reasons for and the background of the proposed changes, especially with regard to the relationship to the newly established United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women).

43. Under subprogramme 7, Conflict mitigation and development, a question was raised regarding the contribution of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) to its member States with regard to countries in crisis and conflict situations.

44. The Committee was informed of Economic and Social Council resolutions 2011/3 and 2011/4 of 18 May 2011 and took note of them.

45. Some delegations stressed that consideration should be given to the specificity and non-overlapping of the respective mandates and functions of ESCWA and other United Nations entities active in the region.

Conclusions and recommendations

46. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the changes to the narrative of programme 18, Economic and social development in Western Asia, reflected in subprogrammes 6 and 7, as contained in the consolidated report of the Secretary-General (A/66/82).**

B. Evaluation

1. Strengthening the role of evaluation and the application of evaluation findings on programme design, delivery and policy directives

47. At its 6th meeting, on 8 June 2011, the Committee considered the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) on strengthening the role of evaluation and the application of evaluation findings on programme design, delivery and policy directives (A/66/71).

48. The representative of OIOS introduced the report and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

49. Delegations expressed appreciation for the report, which enabled them to understand how programmes of the United Nations Secretariat had been implemented and evaluated. They also observed that the report was comprehensive and would go a long way towards energizing evaluation processes in the Secretariat. Delegations also expressed their support for the evaluation function, noting its importance for reflection and improvement of work. The role of evaluation is a very substantive management function for any organization — the United Nations is no exception. Delegations thanked OIOS and line units in departments for the evaluation activities conducted.

50. Delegations observed that evaluations provide input for wiser decision-making on programme planning and design, and increased effectiveness and efficiency. They expressed appreciation for the active role of OIOS in strengthening accountability and welcomed the measures OIOS had taken to improve its own evaluation activities.

51. Delegations noted that the quality of the 2008-2009 self-evaluations was "satisfactory" overall, but varied widely. Concern was expressed regarding nine reports on six programmes that were rated "poor". Further clarification was sought as to the reasons for the ratings and corrective measures taken.

52. Several delegations expressed concern about the removal of the expected accomplishment "effective self-evaluation of all programmes and subprogrammes on a regular basis" from the 2010 senior managers' compacts with the Secretary-General and sought clarification for this action. Delegations emphasized that self-evaluation should be fully accepted as a management function.

53. Delegations noted in particular the observation contained in the report that management staff frequently did not seem to be aware of their duties with regard to self-evaluation. The view was expressed that the Committee needed to insist on a firm commitment by all staff to evaluation. Delegations also emphasized that it was important to have well-trained evaluators, and sought clarification on the use of consultants for evaluations.

54. Concern was expressed by some delegations at the reduction in the proportion of resources envisaged for monitoring and evaluation activities in programme resources in 2010-2011 compared with the biennium 2008-2009. This would affect the quality of evaluation activities. The view was expressed that the Secretariat should attach great importance to evaluation and come up with recommendations accordingly. Other delegations noted that the lack of resources, as referred to in the report of OIOS, seemed to be an arbitrary statement and did not appear to be the main obstacle to conducting evaluations in the Secretariat.

55. Further concern was expressed that elements of evaluation culture were mentioned by focal points as being among the three biggest obstacles that programmes faced in managing and conducting self-evaluations in 2008-2009 (A/66/71, para. 51), and it was noted that a lack of sufficient financial resources was reported by 56 per cent of focal points as the biggest obstacle that their programmes faced (A/66/71, para. 45).

56. With reference to paragraphs 6 and 71 (e) of the report, which stated that OIOS had engaged outside expertise to undertake the quality assessment of a sample of departmental evaluations and of its own evaluation and inspection reports in 2008-2009, some delegations expressed concern as to why OIOS needed to hire external consultants for such work. Further clarification was sought as to whether this was typical practice for evaluation units of programmes to assess their work when the Joint Inspection Unit or the Board of Auditors could undertake that task.

57. Noting in particular paragraph 43 of the report, the Committee stressed the importance of sufficient financial and staffing resources, as well as sufficient competencies and leadership support to ensure adequate evaluation capacities at the central, programme and subprogramme levels throughout the Secretariat.

Conclusions and recommendations

58. **The Committee emphasized that evaluation was a key function for the adoption of budgetary decisions, since it not only helped to improve programme design and execution, as well as the formulation of policy directives, but also contributed to transparency, effective implementation of intergovernmental mandates and the maximization of the use of resources. At the same time, it allowed Member States to follow up on programme outcomes in a systematic way.**

59. **Although it recognized its primary responsibilities for the coordination and programming functions, the Committee underlined the importance of the role it could and should play in evaluation.**

60. **The Committee noted that the effectiveness of evaluation depended on, among other factors, the quality of management indicators. It thus reiterated the need to improve the formulation of the desired outcomes, as well as the qualitative aspects of indicators, bearing in mind that they must be specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound.**

61. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to take concrete measures in the competent bodies and at the appropriate levels in order to ensure that evaluation had the greatest possible impact on the medium- and long-term strategic planning of the United Nations system.**

62. **The Committee also recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to ensure that OIOS evaluation reports also focus on programme impact and results achieved, by improving the methodology for conducting assessments and, in particular, ensuring regular follow-up on the progress made and more comprehensive conclusions.**

63. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to ensure that a more systematic approach to evaluating activities is adopted by OIOS, including in terms of the better exploitation of complementarities and synergies among all activities and of the strengthening of coordination among all relevant departments, in order to achieve more effective evaluation results and the more efficient use of available resources.**

64. **The Committee stressed that appropriately balanced competencies and strong commitment from staff at all managerial levels, including senior leadership support, as well as sufficient financial and staffing resources, were among the main elements required to the ensure adequate conduct of evaluation activities in the Secretariat.**

65. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to make better use of in-house expertise to carry out evaluations in the different entities of the Secretariat, in particular the experience accumulated by the internal and external oversight bodies.**

66. **The Committee selected the programme evaluations of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for consideration at its fifty-third session in 2013 and the thematic evaluation of the internal justice system of the Secretariat for consideration by the relevant intergovernmental body.**

2. Programme evaluation of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs

67. At its 3rd meeting, on 7 June 2011, the Committee considered the report of OIOS on the programme evaluation of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (E/AC.51/2011/2).

68. The Acting Director of the Inspection and Evaluation Division of OIOS introduced the report, and representatives of OIOS and the Department responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

69. Delegations expressed appreciation for the report and noted the significance of its being the first evaluation of the Department as a whole since its reorganization in 1997. They also underscored the importance of the Department's work in the economic and social development areas through its provision of support to the Economic and Social Council and other intergovernmental processes and its contributions to the attainment of internationally agreed development goals, among its many other functions.

70. Several delegations expressed concern regarding some of the methodology used in reaching the report's conclusions, citing the low response rates for the Member State and staff surveys and the limited number of publications that were

reviewed by the expert panel. In response, OIOS acknowledged the challenges in attaining high response rates in its surveys and explained that, since it triangulated data from multiple sources, none of the report's results were based on a single source. In addition, it was explained that the publications had been chosen in consultation with the Department as representing its key publications, and that data on the quality and utility of the publications had been obtained from a large survey of Department stakeholders.

71. Clarification was sought on the question posed to the Committee, as reflected in the report, on evaluating the merits of having the Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs placed within the Executive Office of the Secretary-General rather than within the Department. OIOS responded that, currently, the Assistant Secretary-General was responsible for Secretariat-wide coordination issues but not for Department coordination issues, which had been identified as a challenge by senior leadership of the Department. The Assistant Secretary-General represented the entire Secretariat on the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination. Thus, placement of the post in the Office of the Secretary-General would be more appropriate and would also bring to bear the authority of the Secretary-General on Secretariat coordination issues.

72. Queries were raised regarding some of the report's results on the varying degree of the visibility of the Department and the relatively low level of resources allocated to it. A number of delegations concurred with the report's results regarding the challenges related to the Department's visibility, such as its role in the upcoming United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. With respect to resource allocation, the view was expressed that more support should be provided to development-related work. Questions were also raised regarding the mainstreaming of human rights issues into the Department's work, noting in particular that this was not a part of its mandate.

73. The view was expressed that the Department should wait for the Committee's deliberations on the evaluation recommendations before it proceeded with their implementation.

Conclusions and recommendations

74. **The Committee recalled the importance of the role played by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs within the development pillar of the United Nations system. In that regard, it highlighted the valuable support that the Department provides to the intergovernmental decision-making process and the global statistical system, as well as its impact on the progress made in achieving the Millennium Development Goals.**

75. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to enable the Department to sharpen its strategic focus, continuing its work of planning already begun, through more explicit identification of its priorities and critical activities. In that regard, the Committee noted the need for the Department to further clarify its specific role in the work of capacity-building, taking into account the need to stimulate cooperation with United Nations entities based in the field.**

76. **The Committee took note of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the programme evaluation of the Department of Economic and**

Social Affairs and recommended that the General Assembly endorse the conclusions and recommendations contained in paragraphs 76 to 80 of the report.

77. **The Committee expressed concern about the questions raised in the report of OIOS concerning the placement of posts and their titles, which disregarded the relevant mandates of the General Assembly, in particular the provisions of its resolution 58/269 regarding the respective roles of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Fifth Committee in the budget process.**

3. Triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee at its forty-eighth session on the in-depth evaluation of political affairs: field special political missions led by the Department of Political Affairs but supported by the Department of Field Support

78. At its 4th meeting, on 7 June 2011, the Committee considered the report of OIOS on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-eighth session on the in-depth evaluation of political affairs: field special political missions led by the Department of Political Affairs but supported by the Department of Field Support (E/AC.51/2011/3).

79. The Acting Director of the Inspection and Evaluation Division of OIOS introduced the report and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

80. Delegations expressed appreciation for the report and emphasized that special political missions had become crucial for the Organization's work in supporting peace and security. Some delegations noted with concern that there had been an increase in the number of special political missions and that they currently accounted for 30 per cent of the regular budget. Delegations also stressed that strategic oversight remained the primary responsibility of Member States.

81. Delegations acknowledged the successful implementation of three of the four recommendations endorsed by the Committee. Delegations noted that, while the report of OIOS acknowledged the compliance of the Department of Political Affairs with developing guidelines, harmonization in strategic planning was lacking. They requested the Department to further clarify how it planned to approach those issues and to elaborate on how special political missions should interact with United Nations funds and programmes to avoid redundancy and competition.

Conclusions and recommendations

82. **The Committee noted the efforts under way to strengthen the Department of Political Affairs in accordance with the overall objective of programme 2, Political affairs, of the strategic framework for the period 2012-2013 (A/65/6/Rev.1), as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 65/244, in order to maintain international peace and security.**

83. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to ensure that special political missions and other resident United Nations entities strengthen their cooperation and coordination in order**

to achieve the expected outcomes and enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the Organization's work.

84. **The Committee took note of the progress made to improve mission strategic planning in respect of the definition and application of the guidelines on the role and respective responsibilities of field special political missions, as well as better coordination and cooperation in support of such missions between the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Field Support.**

85. **The Committee noted with concern that recommendation 2 contained in the report of OIOS (E/AC.51/2008/2) and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/247, upon the recommendation of the Committee at its forty-eighth session, had not been fully implemented.**

86. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of comprehensive strategic planning, which provides for the alignment of planning documents with the budget, in the context of the results-based-budgeting process, particularly in respect of the need to have more meaningful indicators of achievement and better linkage between the objectives, activities and achievements of missions.**

Chapter III
Coordination questions

A. Annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2010/11

87. At its 4th meeting, on 7 June 2011, the Committee considered the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) for 2010/11 (E/2011/104).

88. The Secretary of CEB introduced the report and responded verbally and in written form to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

89. Delegations thanked the Secretary of CEB for his presentation, welcomed the comprehensive annual overview report of CEB for 2010/11 and commended the work of the Board and its three pillars (the High-level Committee on Programmes, the High-level Committee on Management and the United Nations Development Group) in strengthening coordination of various areas within the United Nations system.

90. Delegations commended the work of CEB in ensuring greater coherence and coordination in areas such as climate change and sustainable development; preparations for major conferences, such as the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development; the empowerment of women; and disaster risk reduction. In addition, measures adopted by the Board to follow up on intergovernmental decisions related to sustainable energy for all were noted.

91. Delegations expressed their appreciation and support for the increased dialogue between CEB and executive heads and intergovernmental organs, particularly the Economic and Social Council. CEB was urged to continue its efforts in that regard, as well as efforts to enhance the transparency of its decisions and work for Member States, including aligning its decisions with those of intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations.

92. With regard to operational issues, some delegations welcomed the efforts of CEB in enhancing the country-level coherence, effectiveness and efficiency of the United Nations development system. However, operational activities for development of the United Nations system in helping countries to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, must continue to be in accordance with the national priorities, development strategies and needs of Member States. In that regard, it was important to take into account the particular circumstances and issues presented in national priorities and development strategies in aligning the United Nations Development Assistance Framework cycle and common country assessments with national processes, as opposed to moving towards a "one size fits all" approach.

93. Several delegations expressed the view that the concept of an "integrated implementation framework" should be discussed in the Economic and Social Council as the primary body concerned with the implementation of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. Some delegations expressed concern that they had not been informed of the concept prior

to the Committee's meeting and sought clarification regarding its formulation, as well as when it would be presented to Member States for adoption. Delegations expressed the need for the concept to facilitate synergies and align with the Millennium Development Goals.

94. Some delegations welcomed efforts by the Board in implementing major outcomes of intergovernmental decisions, including piloting the "delivering as one" concept. Another group of delegations called attention to the fact that there was no single model for United Nations assistance provided by the specialized agencies, funds and programmes on the ground. Delegations reiterated their call to the Secretary-General to ensure that the work of CEB was consistent with key General Assembly decisions on operational issues with which the United Nations Development Group was concerned.

95. On support to developing countries, several delegations took note of the statement of support by CEB to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries. A few delegations expressed interest in how the United Nations system intended to promote the development of productive capacities in the light of the adoption of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 (A/CONF.219/3).

96. On staff safety and security, the view was expressed that information provided in the report was cursory and that such work should be pursued in line with the overall efforts within intergovernmental bodies on reforming the management of safety and security. More information was sought on the efforts of CEB to treat this issue with paramount importance and the measures taken within the United Nations system to protect staff.

97. Two decisions of the Committee at its fiftieth session relating to the work of CEB were recalled. The Board was asked to provide more information with regard to the degree to which it had enhanced the participation of developing countries in the procurement process of the United Nations system and efforts to strengthen cooperation between CEB and other inter-organizational bodies such as the International Civil Service Commission and the Joint Inspection Unit, including information on the frequent participation of those two bodies in the work of CEB.

98. Some delegations raised points related to the "Principals Group" established under the auspices of the Secretary-General. The view was expressed that the Group should focus on processes of creating synergies between the various policy strands in providing concise and coherent advice and messaging related to sustainable development. Furthermore, several points related to the implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) were raised. Specifically, delegations requested that the Secretariat provide a written response to better clarify the information conveyed in paragraph 61 of the annual overview report as well as on the status of implementation and achievability of IPSAS among involved entities and taking into account relevant General Assembly resolutions and guidelines.

99. Delegations also sought further clarification as to why the topics of sustainable energy and biodiversity were presented together in the annual overview report.

Conclusions and recommendations

100. **The Committee recommended once again that the General Assembly bring to the attention of the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, the**

need for the Board to continue to act in accordance with its mandate of enhancing system-wide coordination and in conformity with the intergovernmental mandates of its member organizations.

101. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, to report to the Assembly on the occurrence of direct and substantive dialogue between CEB and Member States, in accordance with paragraph 4 of its resolution 64/289, in order to enhance the Board's transparency and accountability to Member States.**

102. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly take note of the efforts of the Secretary-General concerning change management and request that he ensure that the focus of these efforts is the effective and efficient implementation of mandates approved by intergovernmental organs.**

103. **The Committee noted with interest the role of CEB in the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2012, and in this regard recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, to report on the challenges and opportunities for the United Nations system resulting from that global event.**

104. **The Committee reiterated its recommendations contained in its reports on its forty-seventh session (A/62/16, para. 114), forty-eighth session (A/63/16, paras. 407 and 408), forty-ninth session (A/64/16, para. 124) and fiftieth session (A/65/16, para. 369), in which it stated that any criteria and methodology for the comprehensive evaluation of the eight "delivering as one" pilot projects should first be considered and approved by the General Assembly and that United Nations support for "delivering as one" pilot projects should not prejudice the outcome of the intergovernmental deliberations of the Assembly on system-wide coherence.**

105. **The Committee also reiterated its recommendation that the General Assembly bring to the attention of the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, the need to continue to better address the issue of increasing the participation of developing countries and economies in transition in the procurement processes of the United Nations.**

106. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, to ensure that projects funded by the High-level Committee on Management Plan of Action are implemented in accordance with relevant provisions of the General Assembly resolutions concerning administrative and budgetary matters, as well as the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations (ST/SGB/2003/7).**

107. **The Committee recommended continuous cooperation between CEB, the International Civil Service Commission and the Joint Inspection Unit and encouraged CEB to strengthen that cooperation through the more frequent participation of the Joint Inspection Unit and the Commission in the meetings of the High-level Committee on Management, the High-level Committee on Programmes and the United Nations Development Group.**

B. United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

108. At its 5th meeting, on 8 June 2011, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (E/AC.51/2011/4).

109. The Director of the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Africa introduced the report and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussions

110. Overall support and satisfaction were expressed for the work of the Office, in particular its important coordination role. Delegations emphasized the need to strengthen support in the infrastructure cluster, in particular in the areas of energy, transportation, water and sanitation. In this regard, delegations acknowledged the work of the high-level sub-committee on the Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative, which was aimed at further strengthening the development of infrastructure on the African continent. Delegations also emphasized the need to improve road and railway connectivity, in particular in support of the efforts of the regional economic commissions to advance regional integration by promoting regional infrastructure projects. Delegations overwhelmingly noted that investment in infrastructure would bring multiple benefits to the African continent.

111. With respect to governance, delegations expressed their appreciation to the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme for partnering with Africa in the continued roll-out of the African Peer Review Mechanism. Delegations also acknowledged the work of UN-Women in increasing the voice of women in governance and related processes. In this regard, delegations stated that investment in higher education was a key element in facilitating the empowerment of women and therefore urged UN-Women and other key stakeholders to continue to address that issue as a matter of priority.

112. In the area of peace and security, delegations welcomed the establishment of the United Nations Office to the African Union, Addis Ababa, and stressed the need to strengthen the Office to enable it to deliver its mandate in close collaboration with the regional economic commissions. Delegations also commended the collaboration among UN-Women, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Children's Fund in the protection of women and children in situations of armed conflict. Delegations further stressed the need to improve the growing bonds between the United Nations Security Council and the African Union Peace and Security Council. In this regard, delegations expressed their continued support for the African Union Peace Support Team of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in assisting the African Union in building capacity for peacekeeping operations on the continent.

113. With regard to agriculture, food security and rural development, delegations welcomed the efforts of the United Nations in those areas, in particular the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme. Delegations welcomed the progress being made in the formulation of a comprehensive and integrated capacity-building programme for the African Union Commission and the Planning

and Coordinating Agency on Food Security of the New Partnership for Africa's Development. Delegations also recognized the important linkages among trade, infrastructure, industry and technology in the enhancement of agricultural productivity.

114. In respect of industry, trade and market access, delegations stressed that trade facilitation was one of the key components of the development of African economies. In this regard, delegations commended the efforts of the United Nations, in particular the good work being done by key institutions such as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Trade Organization, the International Trade Centre, the World Bank and the World Customs Organization, to facilitate trade in Africa. Moreover, delegations expressed the view that trade facilitation went hand in hand with the improvement of regional infrastructure development. Delegations also welcomed the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries.

115. In terms of the environment, population and urbanization, delegations acknowledged that the consequences of climate change were having a negative ripple effect on the continent. In this regard, delegations stressed the importance of reaching an African common position on climate change, especially in preparation for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. With respect to social and human development, delegations took note of the assistance being provided by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS in drawing up a comprehensive compendium of continental and global commitments on HIV/AIDS, noting that it was a very focused approach to a serious health problem facing Africa. Concerning science and technology, delegations stressed the importance of capacity-building through the training of teachers in science, engineering and technology. Furthermore, delegations called for the use of institutions of distance learning to facilitate the training of local teachers on the continent.

116. With regard to communications, advocacy and outreach, delegations fully recognized the need for advocacy and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development at the global, continental, regional and national levels. In this regard, delegations stressed the importance of the Vaal Consensus, intended to facilitate an open and active channel of communication to further enhance support for the continent and its New Partnership for Africa's Development programme.

117. Delegations noted that the primary objective of advocacy was entrusted to the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa. However, owing to the fact that a separate Under-Secretary-General had not been appointed, the mandate of the Office was conflated with those relating to small island and landlocked developing countries. Delegations expressed the view that this arrangement remained of concern to them.

118. Some delegations expressed concern about the adverse impacts of the economic and financial crises on developing countries in general and on Africa's development in particular. In this regard, appropriate responses should be formulated to mitigate the socio-economic impact and to ensure that progress would be made towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

119. Delegations also acknowledged the importance of South-South cooperation in advancing Africa's development agenda and underlined the complementary aspects of South-South and North-South cooperation.

120. Furthermore, some delegations recalled paragraph 103 of the report of the Secretary-General and expressed concern regarding the call for United Nations entities to align their planning, programming and budget cycles with the nine clusters in order to facilitate joint planning and programming of the activities of the Regional Coordination Mechanism.

Conclusions and recommendations

121. **The Committee welcomed the annual report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (E/AC.51/2011/4) and recommended that the General Assembly endorse the conclusions and recommendations contained in its paragraphs 99 to 105.**

122. **In recommending that the General Assembly endorse the recommendation contained in paragraph 103 of the report, the Committee also requested the Assembly to reaffirm the current budget cycles as established by its relevant resolutions. Furthermore, the Committee recommended that consideration be given to the budgetary cycles adopted by the respective governing bodies of the organizations comprising the United Nations system.**

123. **The Committee recognized that the Secretary-General's reporting on United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development had continued to improve and that the most recent report better responded to the previous calls to report tangible action and results in respect of United Nations system support for projects of the Partnership across the African continent, while stressing that future reports should further enhance the focus on the impact, in both quantitative and qualitative terms, of the activities implemented by entities of the United Nations system in support of the Partnership, with respect to the resources mobilized.**

124. **The Committee took note of the decision taken in 2001 by African leaders, based on the common vision and the firm and shared conviction that they had a duty to eradicate poverty and to place their countries on a path of sustainable growth and development, to initiate the New Partnership for Africa's Development programme for the sustainable development and social revival of Africa, and recommended that the tenth anniversary of the programme be utilized by the United Nations system to recommit to the Partnership through a monitoring mechanism, building on existing mechanisms, to follow up on all commitments related to the development of Africa and regularly evaluate the impact of its support for the programme in order to obtain a better sense of the gaps that needed to be filled and the progress that could be built upon.**

125. **The Committee noted that the United Nations system needed to renew its commitment to the New Partnership for Africa's Development through the rationalization of a results-based system to monitor and evaluate the impact of its support of the implementation of the programme. In that regard, the Committee reaffirmed the need to improve the overall coordination of all development programmes and projects in Africa.**

126. **The Committee recommended that the United Nations system continue to promote greater coherence in its work in support of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, on the basis of the agreed clusters of the Regional**

Coordination Mechanism in Africa, and called upon the United Nations system to continue to mainstream the special needs of Africa into all of its normative and operational activities, including the financing of programmes and projects, resource mobilization and humanitarian assistance.

127. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to adopt the measures necessary to promote the creation of synergies between the United Nations entities participating in the cluster system in order to eliminate the duplication of work and the inefficient use of resources.**

128. **The Committee also recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to advocate the measures necessary to improve the monitoring and evaluation mechanisms in order to ensure the full incorporation of predetermined targets, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement into the workplans of the clusters and sub-clusters.**

129. **The Committee recommended that the United Nations system coordinate closely with the New Partnership for Africa's Development Planning and Coordinating Agency, as the technical body of the African Union, and other structures of the African Union Commission and the Partnership in order to further strengthen the implementation of the African Union/New Partnership for Africa's Development African Action Plan 2010-2015.**

130. **The Committee welcomed the support provided by the United Nations system for the work of the high-level subcommittee on the Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative, which was aimed at promoting regional infrastructure development through political advocacy. The Committee recognized that technical coordination and support for the Initiative, in collaboration with regional economic commissions, the African Development Bank and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, was important given the criticality of infrastructure for the advancement of Africa's regional integration agenda.**

131. **The Committee reiterated that the primary objective of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa was to promote advocacy and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development at the international, continental and regional levels. In this regard, the Committee noted that this critical Office was still not being led at the legislatively mandated level of Under-Secretary-General. The Committee once again recalled General Assembly resolutions 57/7 and 57/300 by which the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa had been established, as well as recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, subsequently endorsed by the Assembly in its resolutions 62/236, 63/260, 64/243 and 65/244 and the decisions contained therein, urging the Secretary-General to fill the vacant post of Under-Secretary-General in charge of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa.**

132. **The Committee recalled the consensus political declaration on South-South cooperation adopted at the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, held in Nairobi from 1 to 3 December 2009, and once again reaffirmed the urgent need for the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa to also pursue the principles underpinning South-South cooperation in its**

efforts to advance the African agenda and the objectives of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, bearing in mind that South-South cooperation was not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation.

Chapter IV

Provisional agenda for the fifty-second session of the Committee

133. In pursuance of paragraph 2 (e) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/41 and paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 34/50, the Committee shall submit to the Council and to the Assembly, for their review, the provisional agenda for its fifty-second session, together with the required documentation.

134. In its decision 1983/163, the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of intergovernmental and expert bodies, before decisions were adopted, any request for documentation that exceeded the ability of the Secretariat to prepare and process such documentation on time and within its approved resources, and to draw the attention of intergovernmental bodies to areas where duplication of documentation was likely to occur and/or where opportunities for integrating or consolidating documents that dealt with related or similar themes might exist, with a view to rationalizing documentation.

135. The draft provisional agenda for the fifty-second session of the Committee is set out below. It has been prepared on the basis of existing legislative mandates and will be completed at the end of the present session in the light of the recommendations adopted by the Committee.

Draft provisional agenda for the fifty-second session of the Committee

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Programme questions:
   (a) Programme performance;

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General on programme performance for the biennium 2010-2011

   (b) Programme planning;

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2014-2015: part one, plan outline, and part two, biennial programme plan (General Assembly resolutions 59/275, 62/224 and 65/244)

   (c) Evaluation.

   Documentation

   Triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-ninth session on the thematic evaluation of United Nations coordinating bodies: report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

Triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-ninth session on the thematic evaluation of lessons learned: protocols and practices: report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

Triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-ninth session on the evaluation of United Nations support for least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and Africa: report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

4. Coordination questions:

   (a) Report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination;

   Documentation

   Annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2011/12

   (b) New Partnership for Africa's Development.

   Documentation

   United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development: report of the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolution 59/275)

5. Report(s) of the Joint Inspection Unit.

6. Provisional agenda for the fifty-third session.

7. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-second session.

Annex I

Agenda for the fifty-first session of the Committee

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Programme questions:
   (a) Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013;
   (b) Evaluation.
4. Coordination questions:
   (a) Report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination;
   (b) New Partnership for Africa's Development.
5. Report(s) of the Joint Inspection Unit.
6. Provisional agenda for the fifty-second session.
7. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-first session.

Annex II

Documents before the Committee at its fifty-first session

A/66/82	Report of the Secretary-General: consolidated report on the changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011 and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 (General Assembly resolutions 58/269, 62/224 and 64/229)
A/65/6/Rev.1	Strategic framework for the period 2012-2013
A/66/6 (Sect. 3)	Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013: Political affairs
A/66/6 (Sect. 15)	Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013: Human settlements
A/66/6 (Sect. 17)	Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013: UN-Women
A/66/6 (Sect. 22)	Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013: Economic and social development in Western Asia
A/66/71	Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on strengthening the role of evaluation and the application of evaluation findings on programme design, delivery and policy directives (General Assembly resolution 62/224)
E/2011/104	Annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2010/11 (Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX))
E/AC.51/2011/1	Annotated provisional agenda of the Committee for Programme and Coordination
E/AC.51/2011/2	Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on programme evaluation of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (General Assembly resolution 64/229)
E/AC.51/2011/3	Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-eighth session on the in-depth evaluation of political affairs: field special political missions led by the Department of Political Affairs but supported by the Department of Field Support (General Assembly resolution 63/247)
E/AC.51/2011/4	Report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (General Assembly resolutions 59/275)
E/AC.51/2011/L.1 and Rev.1	Note by the Secretariat: status of documentation

E/AC.51/2011/L.2	Note by the Secretariat: reports of the Joint Inspection Unit (Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) and General Assembly resolution 59/267)
E/AC.51/2011/L.3	Note by the Secretariat: provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-second session of the Committee (Economic and Social Council resolution 1894 (LVII))
E/AC.51/2011/L.4 and Add.1-6	Draft report of the Committee
E/AC.51/2011/INF/1	List of delegations

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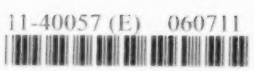

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